

THE DEATH TRAP.

Exciting Scenes at the Inquest of Ford's Theatre Victims.

THE CLERKS BECOME FRENZIED

And Make Violent Demonstrations Towards Col. Ainsworth.

DENOUNCING HIM AS A MURDERER.

It Looked as One Time as if He Would be Assaulted in Open Court—A Juror Finally Calms the Crowd. The Chief of the Record and Pension Division is Accused of Intimidating Witnesses—He Refuses to Leave—Secretary Lamont Assures Clerks That They Need not Fear Dismissal in Testifying—Damaging Evidence Given as to the Unsafe Condition of the Building—Clerks Hold an Indignation Meeting.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 12.—There was a startling and sensational scene in the inquest in the Ford's theatre disaster after the recess to-day. Mr. Charles E. Banes denounced Colonel Ainsworth as intimidating witnesses, and immediately there was a most threatening demonstration against the Colonel.

The testimony was proceeding quietly, when the dramatic scene occurred suddenly and without warning. Mr. Banes walked forward, and when close to Colonel Ainsworth shook his fist in his face and in a voice trembling with passion cried out "you murdered my brother, and you have no right to sit here and intimidate witnesses."

There was a dead pause. Then Mr. Warner, one of the jurors, said that owing to the evident feeling displayed he thought it only right that any one who might be implicated in this matter should be asked to withdraw. Intense excitement followed.

Mr. Perry, counsel for Col. Ainsworth got on his feet, but howls and shouts from all sides drowned his voice. In vain he appealed to be heard. Excited men were shaking their fists and cries of "murderer," etc., arose. Mr. Warner sprang on a chair and appealed for quiet and peace.

One man yelled "kill him," another "hang him," and a general movement was made toward Col. Ainsworth who remained calm, but pale.

Mr. Warner, standing on a chair, appealed again and again for peace, while Lieutenant Amis, of the police force, took his station by Colonel Ainsworth's chair.

One excited man jumped in front of the coroner and yelled "there will be no peace until Ainsworth is put under arrest and held without bail."

Finally Mr. Warner made himself heard and succeeded in quieting the storm, which threatened to add another chapter to the horror, and Coroner Schaeffer immediately adjourned the hearing until to-morrow.

As soon as the inquest adjourned Colonel Ainsworth went out and got into a carriage and drove away. He was followed by angry cries and imprecations.

THE CORONER'S INQUEST.

Stirring Scenes Enacted—Col. Ainsworth is Boldly Denounced.

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 12.—The inquest over the bodies of the victims of the Ford's theatre disaster was commenced today at 11 o'clock in Willard's hall, adjoining Willard's hotel, a room capable of accommodating about 500 people. Just at 11 o'clock Col. Ainsworth, chief of the record and pension division, who has been placed on the defensive by implied accusations that he was responsible for the presence of clerks in the old building entered the hall, and engaged in a short consultation with his attorney, Mr. Ross Perry, of this city. About a hundred persons were present, most of them the clerks of the record and pension division, with a sprinkling of war department officials, builders, contractors and policemen. Dr. Schaeffer, the deputy coroner of the District, conducted the inquest.

The deputy coroner called the jury to order, and professed the investigation by a statement that holding an investigation in a public hall was something of an experiment, and he admonished the public present to keep perfectly quiet. He stated that the inquest was to be held over the remains of J. A. Chapin, whose body had been secured for that purpose. Benj. R. Banes, a clerk employed in the old theatre building, was the first witness called. He had been excused, he said, at 9 o'clock on the morning of the disaster, on account of business and was not present when the building fell. He had not seen any area roped off or as dangerous inside the old theatre. For several years he had heard it rumored that the building, particularly the rear wall (which did not fall) was unsafe. A day or two before the accident he had seen Col. Ainsworth at the building; he was there while the excavation was going

down stairs to see the excavation. Colonel Ainsworth came nearly every day while the excavation was going on. The old employees of the building had told him it was a shell and death trap. Smith Thompson, a clerk in the theatre building, who made a bitter speech denouncing Colonel Ainsworth at the relief meeting on Friday, was the next witness.

"Had you ever heard any warning about the stairway?" asked the deputy coroner.

A VERITABLE DEATH TRAP.

"Frequently, frequently," said the witness. "Servants or messengers of Colonel Ainsworth who were stationed on the stairway notified us with bated breath that it was Colonel Ainsworth's order that employees should go easily on tip toe up and down the stairs. The building was known to all the clerks as the death trap; but when one's bread and butter depended on working there, what could we do? Only this morning I received a letter from a friend, a lady, in which she said she recollected distinctly that I said two years ago that I was going into a death trap."

The witness said that he had been a civil engineer. Every day he went below stairs and watched the progress of the excavation. He saw no pillars or props used in holding up the first floor while the excavation was going on. Concerning the one stairway in the theatre building Mr. Thompson said it was not sufficient for the rapid exit of one-half of the clerks with safety. In going down the stairs are unsafe.

A LITTLE SCENE.

Just at this stage in Mr. Thompson's testimony there was a strange scene illustrating a bitter feeling against Col. Ainsworth. A majority of the spectators present at the inquest were clerks employed in the old theatre building. Mr. Warner, one of the jurors, asked what was the feeling of the clerks in the building towards their superior officer, Col. Ainsworth.

"That of abject fear," answered Mr. Thompson impressively. A slight buzz and shifting of chairs followed; then a slight clapping of hands.

A lieutenant of police present held up his hand to stop the applause, but he was too late. A burst of handclapping followed that lasted a quarter of a minute from a portion of the room where most of the clerks were sitting. Dr. Schaeffer then arose and delivered a lecture to the offenders, after which the hearing proceeded.

A letter from Secretary Lamont was read giving assurance that no clerk need fear dismissal on account of his testimony.

Mr. Warner said he had asked the question because there seemed to be a belief that the feeling existing between Colonel Ainsworth and every man in the office was such that if they had made a suggestion as to the safety of the building it would have jeopardized their positions.

Mr. Warner asked if there was such a feeling of fear that the clerks were afraid to make suggestions as to the dangerous condition of the building.

"It was, Mr. Warner, emphatically it was," was the answer.

Mr. Thompson was questioned further about this feeling and he said it extended to Jacob Frech, "Colonel Ainsworth's right hand bower and the chronic pessimist of Washington," and to Mr. O. P. Brown, the chief clerk of the building.

"DIGGING THEIR GRAVE."

Jefferson Carter, a clerk, was then called, and said in answer to a question that there had been a common rumor among the clerks that the building was insecure. He had heard casual comments about the insecurity of the building while the excavation was being made, and only the other day, June 3 or 4, William Schreiber, who was killed in the disaster, said to him, pointing to the excavation, "Carter I see they're digging your grave." Both Schreiber and Mulledy, who were killed, had frequently spoken to him about the dangerous condition of the building. At this point a recess was taken.

The first witness at the afternoon session was David H. P. Brown, a third-floor clerk, who said that since January 6, 1893, he had heard the building was unsafe. He had been instructed to go carefully up and down the stairway in the theatre building nearly every afternoon by a messenger called "sergeant."

Mr. Brown was asked if there was any fear on the part of the clerks that they would be disturbed if they protested against remaining in the building. "Yes, sir," he answered; and then quickly added, "I decline to answer that question."

"On what grounds do you decline to answer?" asked Dr. Schaeffer.

"On the ground of my own position."

"Did you hear the letter of the secretary of war read, promising protection to clerks who testified?"

"Yes, sir," was the answer. "I do not fear Colonel Ainsworth, for he has done me two favors, but I do fear Mr. French," (whom Mr. Thompson called "Colonel Ainsworth's right bower.")

Mr. Brown finally decided to answer the original question. He said there was much feeling about the insecurity of the building, and a great many clerks, himself among them, would have protested if they had had the courage to do so, against being kept in the old theatre.

"What had the clerks to apprehend?" was asked.

"Discharge," said Mr. Brown.

INTIMIDATING WITNESSES.

Albert N. Crosby, a third floor clerk, was not allowed to finish his testimony. While he was being examined a man walked slowly to a place behind Col. Ainsworth's chair and said something in such a loud voice that it brought out a warning "sh-h" from some of them present. But the man was not to be hushed. He stepped forward and standing directly over Col. Ainsworth cried in a voice trembling with passion: "You murdered my brother and I'd like to know what right you have to sit here and intimidate witnesses."

There was a moment's silence after this passionate outburst, and then a wild shout of approval. Colonel Ainsworth sat calmly in his chair. Lieutenant Amis, of the police force, walked over to the disturber and pushed him toward the doorway. "Who is he?" asked some one.

"His name is Charles G. Banes, whose brother was killed," was the answer from a dozen clerks. Banes is a real estate agent.

looked for a minute that Colonel Ainsworth was in danger. But sharp words from the police lieutenant finally brought quiet.

Before the witness was allowed to proceed, Mr. B. H. Warner, one of the jurors, and a wealthy citizen of Washington, suggested to the coroner that the episode that had just occurred showed the existence of a feeling that could best be silenced by the withdrawal of the party against whom it was directed.

JUROR WARNER'S PLEA.

"I mention no names," said Mr. Warner, "but simply make the suggestion that the party most concerned should withdraw. There is a belief among many of those here that his presence serves as an intimidation to witnesses. There is a feeling here which does not break out, but which is nevertheless present, that intimidation is being carried on, and I therefore object to the presence of any person who is likely to be blamed for participation in this affair."

Loud applause followed Mr. Warner's remarks and Dr. Schaeffer whispered a request to Colonel Ainsworth to withdraw. He refused to do so, however, and the coroner turning to the jury said he had no right to exclude from the hearing any person who was likely to be a party to the verdict.

Juror Hanvey said he had been afraid to testify and would have refused to do so, but for the letter of the secretary of war.

Mr. Ross Perry, as the representative of Colonel Ainsworth, arose to make some remarks on the subject, and his first word was a signal for the most exciting incident of the day.

Butler Fitch, an old, white-haired clerk, of the record and pension division, started the trouble. "Sit down," he shouted. "You are an outsider and have no right here. I protest against an outsider speaking here."

"Sit down, sit down," echoed his fellow-clerks in voices that were not restrained. Fitch cried out something about "murder," and his words were echoed from every part of the hall. Record and pension division clerks were on their feet trying to make speeches as though a public meeting was being held. All this time Mr. Perry stood immovable, and when the uproar had quieted somewhat he appealed to the crowd to let him speak. "I appeal to you as American citizens for fair play," he cried.

"You did not give us fair play," yelled an excited individual. Old Butler Fitch kept crying "No intimidation."

THE CLERKS INFURIATED.

Morgan Spencer, of Bridgeport, Ala., another government clerk, called out at Col. Ainsworth, "You should be arrested for murder, and not released on bail."

Here the tempest broke in its full fury. "Hang him" was shouted from a dozen throats. Every man in the spectators' seats rose. At the cry "hang him," the shout grew louder. Col. Ainsworth sat cool and collected. Somebody said after the uproar was over that his hand moved to his inside coat pocket and remained there. His features seemed absolutely immovable. There was the faintest suggestion of a smile on his lips. Mr. Perry remained standing but made no attempt to quell the mob, for it had grown to be such that Lieut. Amis was utterly powerless to still the tumult.

A mad rush had just begun in the direction of Colonel Ainsworth, when Mr. Warner arose, and standing on his chair, begged for order. The sight of him standing stopped the rush. Dr. Schaeffer directed Mr. Warner to take his seat, but the latter refused, and raising his voice managed to make himself heard. His first words brought quiet.

"This outbreak of feeling must be suppressed," he said, "not by the strong hand of the law, but by the band of fraternity. [Applause.] I appeal to you to have fair play as American citizens, and not to stain the fair name of the glorious capital of this republic. I appeal to you in the name of the Master who reigns above."

The crowd fell into Mr. Warner's way of thinking and cried, "yes," "yes." He saw his advantage and made an appeal to let the question of allowing Colonel Ainsworth remain be settled by cool heads.

When he took his seat, however, there were more threatening mutterings, and Dr. Schaeffer quickly adjourned the inquest until 10 o'clock to-morrow morning at the first precinct police station.

The department clerks stood about the hall talking excitedly over the incident. Colonel Ainsworth sat in his chair for a minute, then walked out of the building, entered a carriage and was quickly driven away amid angry expressions from the crowd.

INDIGNATION MEETING

Of the Clerks—Protest Against the Proposed Secret Session.

When the hall was emptied, the excited language of the clerks continued on the sidewalk, and finally old Butler Fitch mounted the entrance steps of the building and proposed an indignation meeting immediately. The proposition was adopted and the clerks took possession of the hall.

Smith Thompson, aged 72 years, who made many bitter remarks against Col. Ainsworth and Jacob Frech in his testimony this morning was elected chairman of the meeting, and denunciations of Col. Ainsworth and of those who justified his course were indulged in.

A committee consisting of Smith Thompson, W. N. Sayre, B. Fitch, Percy Monroe and M. M. Jarvis was appointed to wait upon the President and protest against the proposed secret session at the police station, and to urge the suspension of Colonel Ainsworth pending the investigation.

Subsequently it was said that the inquest would be resumed to-morrow in the same hall, but under better police arrangements.

It was proposed to appoint a committee to secure counsel to represent the clerks at the next session of the inquest, but this was rendered unnecessary by Judge Jere Wilson volunteering his services.

The court of inquiry ordered by Secretary Lamont to investigate all the facts connected with the disaster and express an opinion as to who is responsible, met this afternoon, but adjourned to meet as the call of the senior officer, for the reason that Colonel Ainsworth cannot appear before the court until the inquest now being conducted is concluded.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Ex-President Harrison's Visit—Movement of the Infanta Estalita.

CHICAGO, June 12.—Ex-President Benjamin Harrison, like thousands of other private citizens availed himself of an opportunity to see the World's Fair to-day. With "Baby" McKee, now quite a boy in Knickerbockers, as a companion, he walked and rode through the wide driveways between the buildings and looked with intent interest on the many wonderful sights to be seen.

The infanta dined to-day at the White Horse Inn. The breakfast was arranged for yesterday. The inn, which Charles Dickens has written so much about in "Pickwick Papers," was cleaned to a nicety from top to bottom. The main court was bordered with a fringe of natural flowers, and over the door of the Pickwick Club rooms were the stars and stripes, and yellow and red bars. Covers were laid for sixteen persons in the infanta's party.

Mexico came to the front at the World's Fair to-day when Commissioner Ronule Escobar pushed aside the curtains and allowed the visitors to see the Mexican display in the agricultural building.

CHALLENGES A HERESY TRIAL.

Rev. Hall, of Chicago, Makes Some Very Vigorous Statements.

CHICAGO, June 12.—Rev. T. C. Hall, son of the celebrated Dr. Hall, of New York, practically challenged a heresy trial to-day. It was in a meeting of the Chicago presbytery, at which the commissioners who went to the general assembly at Washington, made their reports.

The Rev. Mr. Hall said: "I don't believe that Moses wrote the Pentateuch, nor that Isaiah wrote the two books. Our church has taken a position narrower than that of any other in the world. I do not believe it was legal or constitutional. I take the same position practically as that taken by Dr. Briggs."

There was a little hush at this announcement, but there was not a dissenting voice. The members of the presbytery seemed to endorse the sentiments of Dr. Hall.

He Charges Fraud.

CHICAGO, June 12.—William Mavor, who had the contract for building the Mackaye Spectatorium, filed a sensational intervening petition to-day in the suit of Steele Mackaye against the Columbian Celebration Company. Mavor claims that the company owes him \$120,000, and he asked to have all the stockholders declared to be partners and liable for all the debts against the company. Mavor charges fraud and corrupt management against the incorporators of the company, Steele Mackaye, Benjamin Butterworth, Powell Grosley, Sidney C. White, jr., and Howard G. Edmonds.

A Reckless Lawyer.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

HUNTINGTON, W. VA., June 12.—Constable Frampton left this city this evening for the Latonia races. He goes there to find and probably arrest J. W. Vermillion, an attorney of Ceredo, W. Va. R. L. Fullerton, of that place, says he has swindled him out of money while acting as his legal adviser.

The "stuff," it is claimed, Vermillion has been playing on winners at the races and he may be able to settle up without much trouble.

Celebrated Catholic Church Destroyed.

KANKAKEE, ILL., June 12.—The French Catholic church at St. Anne was struck by lightning early this morning. The loss reaches \$30,000. The church enjoyed a national reputation. It was built twelve years ago, and it is said that fully 10,000 people from all over the United States make a pilgrimage to the shrine of St. Anne annually. They claim to have a finger bone of the Virgin Mary, and the tradition is that it is possessed of healing powers.

Explosion at Antwerp.

ANTWERP, June 12.—Great excitement was occasioned throughout the city to-day by an explosion that occurred in front of the residence of the public prosecutor. The force of the explosion was very great, and other houses in the vicinity were smashed to atoms, but no one was injured. It is thought that the outrage was the work of some criminal who had a grudge against the public prosecutor.

Knocked Out in Two Rounds.

RONY, IND., June 12.—Goddard, who was whipped by "Denver" Smith at New Orleans recently, fought Kennedy, a colored man, here to-night. The latter after two vicious rounds was knocked out. At the close Goddard attempted to make a speech, but the cries of the crowd drowned his voice, and he gave it up. Kennedy who had made a game fight as long as he lasted, was cheered on leaving the ring.

WIRE WAIFS.

Butler Lowry, a Chicago real estate dealer, assigned yesterday. Liabilities \$80,000.

The boiler in a steam mill at Barret, Vermont, exploded yesterday, killing five persons.

The failure of the Consolidated Exchange, New York, was announced yesterday. The failure is unimportant.

Jacob Houser, jr., has been appointed postmaster at Manganese, Wood county, W. Va., vice William E. Overstreet.

The Meriam and Morgan Paraffine Company works at Cleveland, Ohio, were destroyed by fire yesterday. Loss \$200,000.

The chemical works of Joseph Burns, in Williamsburg, a suburb of Chicago, have been destroyed by fire. Loss \$100,000.

Acting Director Preston, of the mint bureau, treasury department, yesterday rejected all but one offer of silver. A dozen offers, ranging from \$0.8339 to \$0.8378 per ounce, were made.

During the eleven months ended May 31st, 1893, the values of the exports of breadstuffs were \$173,069,261, and during the corresponding period of the preceding year \$272,474,024, a decrease of \$99,404,762. Of this decrease \$64,674,765 was in wheat; \$21,015,317, corn; \$10,035,134, rye; \$2,843,875, oats; and \$737,071, barley; corn meal, oat meal and wheat flour.

UNIVERSITY MUDDLE.

Something Likely to Drop Before the Regents Adjourn.

TRY TO SHIFT RESPONSIBILITY

To Other Shoulders for Actions Which They Contemplate.

SENIOR CLASS AS A CAT'S PAW.

They are Requested to Petition for an Investigation of the Management of the University, but They do not Take Kindly to the Suggestion. President Turner in His Annual Report to the Board of Regents Creates a Sensation by Recommending the Dismissal of a Majority of the Faculty on Account of Incompetency. Commencement Exercises.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MORGANTOWN, W. VA., June 12.—The board of regents of the University convened in regular annual session Saturday, but nothing other than routine business was transacted.

The work to-day consisted almost entirely of the same character of business. It is expected that work of a more interesting nature will be taken up this evening.

Everything looks to some important changes being made, as petitions are very numerous. A great deal of excitement was produced this evening by the leaking out of a few of the recommendations of Dr. Turner's annual report, which was submitted this afternoon. He recommends that a majority of the members of the faculty be dismissed as being incompetent to fill the positions they now occupy.

The effect of such a recommendation is hard to determine.

The board appears to be anxious to take some action, but does not want to shoulder the responsibility. Certain ones of their number to-day requested a member of the senior class to get up and present a petition from that organization, requesting a thorough investigation of the management of the University. They say that this will give them an opportunity to go to work without any one of the number taking the aggressive.

This petition was started but did not receive a very warm reception. The members of the senior class desire to shoulder no part of the duties or the responsibilities of the board.

Public opinion says that the board should investigate if it sees fit, and upon its own responsibility. They now have several committees at work on various matters of business, and after the reports of these have been received and acted upon they will take up the more interesting matters.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

The Baccalaureate Sermon—Competitive Drills for Banner and Gold Medal. Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MORGANTOWN, W. VA., June 12.—Commencement exercises proper began yesterday morning with the baccalaureate sermon by Rev. W. J. Young, D. D., of Richmond. This was one of the most masterly discourses ever listened to in this town. He preached from Corinthians II, 5-7. The two seemingly conflicting parts, the material and the spiritual were woven into a harmonious whole.

His closing remarks to the members of the senior class was a manly appeal, urging on them the truth; that the knowledge which they have gained in college is only the alphabet by which they should learn to spell out the great truths of the ages.

Dr. Young preached again in the evening before the West Virginia University Chapter of the Inter-Collegiate Y. M. C. A.

The principal day's work for the week is the different competitive drills, parades and reviews. This morning the companies assembled on the parade grounds in South Morgantown for the first part of the company competitive drill. This competition is for a banner, and the winning company is designated as the banner company for the year following each annual competition.

This morning the work was carried by companies through the manual of arms, drill and bayonet exercises.

At four this afternoon Company B met for the first part of its work for the individual prize. This is a beautiful gold medal given to the best drilled man in the corps.

Company B was drilled down to five men this afternoon. This will be done with Company A to-morrow, and then the ten remaining will be thrown together and drilled till the individual is selected. These drills furnish a great incentive to thorough work during the year. This is only the second year of their existence.

THE COMMENCEMENT.

Bethany's Week of Festivity Has Commenced.

The Bethany College commencement exercises, which take place Thursday, promises to be one of the most pleasant and interesting affairs of the kind in the history of the famous educational institution.

Following is the programme:

Music. Prayer. Music. Miss Anna Shupe.....Benediction. G. W. Dodd.....Greek Oration. Music. A. L. Chapman.....Ready at the Dawn. M. E. Dinsard.....The Contagion. Music. B. L. Kershner.....Independence in Manhood. C. H. Plattenburg.....Is Oration a Lost Art? Music. W. C. Hewitt.....Unrest. J. T. Handley.....Valedictory. Conferring Degrees, Announcements, etc. Benediction.

The class of '93 includes two post graduates, J. H. Miller, of Ohio, and W. G. Crim, of West Virginia. The graduates number twenty-one, Ohio leading with nine; Kentucky, three; Virginia, two; Missouri, two; West Virginia, one; New York, one; Indiana, one; Pennsylvania, one; Maryland, one.

The exercises of the week commenced last evening with a musical entertainment, and to-day is field day, athletic exercises being held in the morning

and afternoon. This evening the Neotrophian performance occurs, starting at 8 o'clock.

Wednesday will be class day, and the exercises will commence at 3:30 p. m. In the evening the feature will be the American commencement, starting at 8 o'clock.

Thursday will be the gala day of the week—commencement exercises. The day's proceedings will commence at 9:30 a. m. The alumni meeting will take place at 3:30 in the afternoon, alumni entertainment to be addressed by Mr. O. D. Power at 8 p. m.

The following is the excellent programme for field day, to-day:

Hurdle Race—F. B. Sapp '95, J. F. Stewart '96. One Hundred Yard Dash—F. B. Sapp '95, L. O. Newcomer '95, J. F. Stewart '96. Running High Jump—F. B. Sapp. Obstacle Race—F. B. Sapp '95, J. F. Stewart '96. C. H. Plattenburg '95. Potato Race—J. F. Stewart '96, J. E. Morryman '95. Archery Contest '95, F. B. Sapp '95. Throwing Base Ball—J. M. Cartwright '95, T. H. Collins '95. Grouse Pig Race—Throwing Hammer—R. M. Addleman '95. Putting Shot—R. M. Addleman '95. Standing High Jump—F. B. Sapp '95. High Kick—F. B. Sapp '95. Standing Broad Jump—F. B. Sapp '95. Hop, Step and Jump—F. B. Sapp '95.

FAIRMONT NORMAL SCHOOL.

The Junior Class Exercises—A Brilliant Programme Rendered.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

FAIRMONT, W. VA., June 12.—The junior class exercises at the Normal school to-night were of the most interesting nature, and many compliments were passed upon the class. The exercises were opened by music, followed by a prayer by Rev. R. B. Whitehead. The harmonious voices of the class glee club then penetrated every nook and corner of the large auditorium. The programme was then taken up as follows:

Oration—"Success"—C. E. Wilson, of Holbrook, Doddridge county, W. Va. Class Poem—H. G. Johnson, of Kirt, Barbour county, W. Va. Class Proclamation—A. A. Moats, Mifflin, W. Va.: Miss Myrtle Boyers, Radland, W. Va. Recitation—Miss Grace Ibrahim, Fairmont, W. Va. Music—Class glee club. Representative Oration from Middle Class—C. E. Tremblay, Tannery, Preston county, W. Va. Responsive Oration—Randall Bonar, Tytes, Wood county, W. Va. Music—Class glee club.

GERMANY'S HOT CAMPAIGN.

Over Twenty Political Parties in the Field—Bitter Feeling Prevails.

BERLIN, June 12.—We are in the midst of the campaign now, but one could not tell it by the appearance of the streets or even of the newspapers. To the American, used to banners, the processions, the mass-meetings of a political campaign everything appears quiet and peaceful. But below the surface there is excitement, bitter feeling and an intense partisanship, such as not even the days before the civil war developed in America.

Political quarrels in Germany are carried into the homes, the social and business relations with an intensity of hate and vindictiveness unknown to the civilised Anglo-Saxon, who is a hail fellow well met with his antagonist in private life, after having fought him bitterly in public. We talk of the spoils system and call for civil service rules. We think that political preference is the curse of our national life.

The chaos of political parties at present prevailing in Germany is unprecedented in history. More than twenty political parties are striving for supremacy at present. The large land owners, the small peasant proprietors, the merchants, the tradesmen, the mechanics, the laborers, the petty officials, the teachers, all and everyone are dissatisfied, and they all look for salvation from some political party of their own.

Another cause of confusion is that the same candidates are running in a number of districts at once. Eugene Richter for instance has accepted nominations in about twenty places. If he should get a majority in more than one district there will have to be a new election, as he, of course, can only represent one constituency. Lieber, the leader of the Democratic wing of the Centrists, is also running in a dozen districts.

What the Kaiser will most likely try to do, will be to make concessions to a number of the reactionary parties, and thus line them up in support of his policy. The liberal parties are well aware of this danger, and they will seek to compromise on the army bill, in order to avoid the return of the reactionary element to power. In fact a large part of the Progressist party would have voted for the army bill at the last session had it not been for the sudden dissolution. It was due to this fact that the Radical party split into distinct factions.

A large number thought it policy to compromise, instead of risking all by an obstinate and useless course of negation. This element is present in all the factions, with the exception of the socialists, and on this spirit of compromise the Kaiser and his chancellor build their hopes of success.

THE BRIGGS VERDICT